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SUMMARIES OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, D.C.

December 1972

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FOREIGN DOCUMENTS
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Number 4

SUMMARIES OF FOREIGN GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

DECEMBER, 1972

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FOREWARD

Under a series of documents exchange agreements with environmental agencies in other countries, EPA is building a collection of environmental reports issued by foreign governments and international organizations. This is the fourth in a series of Announcements of foreign documents received.

The original documents can be obtained through the Library Systems Branch (see back page for order form). More detailed English abstracts can be provided when required. Full text translations, which are expensive, should be requested only when essential for operation of EPA programs. Translation Services Requisition Form #1350-1 is used to request translations.

A computerized search system is being developed which will allow future retrieval of these summaries by:

a. country
b. subject area

   air
   water
   noise
   pesticides
   radiation
   solid waste management

c. type of document

   legal/legislative/regulatory
   management/planning
   scientific/technical
   socio-economic

This series, which is devoted to summaries of government reports and concentrated on the legislative, economic and social aspects, supplements foreign scientific and technical literature abstracts covered by other EPA information services:

APTIC
SWIRS
PIC
NOISE

Ultimately, EPA plans to assemble a major collection of foreign government environments documents and to develop several approaches to the dissemination of this information to EPA staff. This announcement of documents received is the first step.

WATER

Czechoslovakia — *See RADIATION (Czechoslovakia) -- Control No. SO-205* — *Code*_____

Czechoslovakia

Article/Source Title: "New Aspects of Hygienic Measures Against Water Pollution" by M. Stepanek and R. Cervenka. Vodni hospodarstvi (Water Economy)
Date/Place of Publication: July 1972, Prague
Pages: 186-188 *Language:* Czech
Source Repository: LOC

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-209

Public health departments and those responsible for water resources management are seeking efficient measures against excessive eutrophication of surface water and the control of algae growth. None of the methods applied at present in sewage treatment plants can remove phosphorous and several other harmful components from water. Of the several methods which have been used to obtain good drinking water, the so-called pretreatment before final treatment is best. The author deals with several alternatives of pretreatment technology which have been used with good results, though so far mainly on a small scale.

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Czechoslovakia

See RADIATION (Czechoslovakia) -- Control No. SO-205

*Code*_____

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Denmark

Article/Source Title: "Sewage and Detergents the Fundamental Issue in Pollution of Baltic." Business Denmark

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-210

Date/Place of Publication: 16 March 1970, Solborg

Pages: 1-2 *Language:* English

Source Repository: LOC

Sewage and phosphorous compounds are the central issue of pollution in the Baltic. Oxygen content is declining and new problems, such as hydrogen sulphide (H_2S), appearing. Salmonella virus is found in the Sound between Copenhagen and Malmo and bacterium clostridium botulinum, type E, has been found in the bottom sediments of the Sound.

Industrial pollution problems seem more manageable, with the Finnish and Swedish paper and pulp industry being the biggest offender.

Sweden has now banned dieldrine and aldrine and partially banned lindane. Oil pollution is a permanent but minor problem. A future problem will be the warm water created by the construction of nuclear power plants.

Finland — See WATER (Denmark) -- Control No. SO-210 — *Code*_____

France — *Article/Source Title:* Assainissement de Paris et de la Region Parisienne (Purification in Paris and Environs) Tech Directorship for Water and Purification, General Dir for Tech Services for City of Paris — *Code*_____ *Control No.* SO-211

Date/Place of Publication: March 1966, Paris
Pages: 36 *Langauge:* French
Source Repository: EPA

Document contains four articles: "Purification Services" by J. Olivesi, discusses the development of Paris purification services (drains, sewers, purification station) from 1856; "Paris Sewers" by M. Ganneau deals with the sewer system which collects natural and waste water; construction of the structures; the general network and its management; maintenance and cleaning of the system and equipment used therefor; and personnel involved in dealing with the public; "The Large Purification Structures of the Paris Region" by H. Polet discusses the characteristics of and the methods used in the construction of structures intended to conduct waste water to the Acheres purification station; and "Cleansing of Seine Waters" by M. Feuillade deals with the purification of Paris and suburban sewage water, purification methods, present and projected treatment stations, and briefly discusses the use of by-products of these stations.

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France

Article/Source Title: "The Fight Against Water Pollution; Purification Stations to Air Nature" by J.L. Lavallard. Le Monde
Date/Place of Publication: 16 August 1972, Paris
Page: 7 *Language:* French
Source Repository: EPA

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-212

The article discusses water pollution (most problematic along France's seacoasts) and the solution to the problem provided by purification stations and related systems. At present, scarcely 25% of the urban population is covered by such stations; all urban areas should be covered by the 1980's. Three types of pollution are outlined (non-biodegradables, biodegradables, and micro-organic pathogenes). The potential dangers of chemical and organic pollutants are specified. The treatment of chemical pollutants is touched on and the treatment of sewage at purification stations is described. The use of sludge from the stations as fertilizer is mentioned and the sludge-drying process described. Sources of biodegradable pollutants other than human waste are also mentioned.

Japan

See AIR (Japan) -- Control Nos. SO-198 and SO-199
GENERAL (Japan) -- Control No. SO-221

*Code*_____

Peoples Republic of China

See GENERAL (Peoples Republic of China) -- Control No. 222

*Code*_____

Sweden

See WATER (Denmark) -- Control No. SO-210

*Code*_____

Switzerland

Article/Source Title: Pollution: Etude sur la region lemanique (Pollution: Study of the Lake Geneva Area) by M. Baettig and D. Haegler

Code

Control No. SO-213

Date/Place of Publication: February 1972, Geneva, Switzerland

Pages: 81 *Language:* French

Source Repository: EPA

The study surveys the environmental situation in the Lake Geneva area, concentrating mainly on the cities of Geneva and Lausanne. One chapter is devoted to the Haute Savoie. The causes of water, noise and air pollution are discussed and anti-pollution measures are examined. Costs of anti-pollution devices are deemed a negative factor toward immediate amelioration of the problems. Comparisons are made with similar conditions in the United States, France and other countries. Pollution of water by industry, pigs and cattle are given attention. A chapter is devoted to purification stations, their operation (including treatment of liquid and solid waste), development and financing. The handling of water pollution by the Lonza plant is dealt with in detail. The handling of refuse and garbage is also discussed; the Canton of Vaud is used as an example. Both Swiss and French governmental action and cooperation are dealt with in a separate chapter. The final solution is concluded to be regional and supra-national.

USSR

Article/Source Title: "Environmental Problems in the USSR" by Keith Bush. Problems of Communism
Date/Place of Publication: July-August 1972, U.S. Information Agency, Washington, D.C.
Pages: 21-31 *Language:* English
Source Repository: LOC

*Code*_____
Control No. SO-214

The author of this article points out that the USSR is faced with much the same environmental problems that are experienced by any industrial society -- the differences in incidence and scale of disruption being largely a function of the stage of development, but also of the spectacularly large amoung of air, land, and water in which to disperse the pollutants. Indications are that water pollution represents the gravest immediate threat to human and animal well-being and the USSR economy and is, therefore, the subject of greatest concern and legislation. Air pollution has yet to become a major problem, but the noise level in Soviet cities is an acknowledged irritant.

USSR

Article/Source Title: "Ecological Research on Pollution of Oceans" by S.A. Patin. Rybnoye khozyaystvo (Fishing Economy)
Date/Place of Publication: 9 September 1972, Moscow
Pages: 20-22 *Language:* Russian
Source Repository: LOC

*Code*_____
Control No. SO-215

The article is a general discussion of directions in ecological research mainly of the Main Administration of Hydrometeorological Service which is gathering data on pollution of USSR oceans. Some topics of study are concentrations of such as radioisotopes and pesticides eco-mathematical models of pollutant distribution, biological consequences of pollution, self-purifying capabilities of oceans, neutralization of waste water, and others.

Bulgaria

Article/Source Title: Okhrana okruzhayushchey sredy v stranakhchlenakh SEV (Environmental Protection in the Council of Economic Mutual Aid Countries), A. Sum (1st Russian ed. from 2d Czech ed.)
Date/Place of Publication: 1972, Prague
Pages: 188 *Language:* Russian
Source Repository: EPA

*Code*_____
Control No. SO-216

The purpose of this publication is to acquaint the public with the basic problems in solving environmental problems in the individual socialistic countries, to outline the methods and means of solving them, and to give an overview of the current situation. The source also touches upon the legal, organizational and institutional steps and measures intended for the creation and protection of the environment.

The publication includes a discussion of the legal problems encountered in the protection of the environment in the individual SEV-member countries, the joint solutions of various aspects of these problems, and the cooperation of the socialistic countries with the international organizations of the United Nations.

The lengthy appendices include: a list of statutes on water, air, nature, land use, woods and pastures, construction and territorial planning, resorts, tourism, capital investment, noise and vibration, radiation, waste disposal and working environment. Also included is a long list of literature.

Czechoslovakia

See GENERAL (Bulgaria) -- Control No. SO-216

*Code*_____

GENERAL

England

Article/Source Title: "After Stockholm's 'Talking Shop' Responsibility Now Shifts to the Boardroom" by Jon Tinker. The Engineer
Date/Place of Publication: 20 July 1972, London
Pages: 22-23, 25 *Language:* English
Source Repository: LOC

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-217

The author, in reviewing the United Nations Conference on Human Environment - UNCHE - in Stockholm, states that many important decisions were made there which will influence political, economic, and industrial conditions in which the world's manufacturing firms must operate. Among the more important decisions, he cites the UN Environment Declaration and the Earthwatch - a new program for monitoring the planetary environment. Most important, perhaps, was the decision to establish a UN Environment Unit, initially funded at $20 million per year. Many of the Stockholm resolutions were aimed at specific countries.

The author concludes by outlining the dilemmas of the developing nations and assessing the effect of the conference on Whitehall.

East Germany

See GENERAL (Bulgaria) -- Control No. SO-216

*Code*_____

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GENERAL

France

Article/Source Title: Industrial Ecology. SERETE Engineering [Co.]
Date/Place of Publication: Undated, Paris
Pages: 8 *Language:* French
Source Repository: EPA

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-218

The document comprises a list of the studies prepared by the SERETE engineering firm. They include general studies covering choice of investment for the depollution of river basins; industrial pollution of various rivers and river basins, purification networks of major French cities, comparative costs of procedures for depolluting the atmosphere, influence of European legislation on pollutants on American investment in the common market and purification networks. Studies on handling liquid wastes have been prepared for projected and existing plants and a brief description is provided on the analytic approach to the study of both types. Studies have been made of the engineering plans for purification stations handling liquid wastes containing phenol and formol emanating from a laminated plastics factory, those containing flouride emanating from rocket test pads, wastes from a brewery, wastes containing cyanide and bichromates from a pen and ink plant, waste containing latex (both acidic and base discharges), wastes emanating from an atomic center, radioactive waste and recovery of plutonium, wastes from plating and electroplating shops and recycling of water used in the process, waste water from a cosmetic plant, waste water from a synthetic rubber plant, waste resulting from the chemical reduction of chrome after neutralization, waste from a perfume factory, and waste water containing sulphurated hydrogen.

Hungary

See GENERAL (Bulgaria) -- Control No. SO-216

*Code*_____

GENERAL

Japan

Article/Source Title: "The Singularities of Japanese Pollution" by Jun Ui. Japan Quarterly
Date/Place of Publication: July-September 1972, Tokyo
Pages: 281-291 *Language:* English
Source Repository: LOC

*Code*_____
Control No. SO-219

In this article written for popular consumption, the author, a tutor at Tokyo University, severely criticizes both the Japanese government and industry for their failure to attempt to realistically cope with Japan's pollution problems. Citing specific examples, he claims that the government and industry work together against the individual. He sets forth what he calls the common principles that underlie the various types of pollution existing in Japan and states that his country has not developed advanced research methods or advanced techniques to cope with the problems.

The author claims that Japan has not progressed beyond the importation of already obsolete technologies from foreign countries and that the anti-pollution laws are ineffective. He feels that only the force of the people, working together, will bring about the desired changes.

Japan

Article/Source Title: "Waste Disposal Methods and Problems" by Dr. Tamechika Yamamoto. CEER: Chemical Economy and Engineering Review
Date/Place of Publication: May 1972, Tokyo
Pages: 32-37 *Language:*
Source Repository: LOC

*Code*_____
Control No. SO-220

The author of this article, Managing Director, Catalysts & Chemicals Co., Ltd., in discussing the problems and countermeasures associated with waste disposal methods goes into some detail concerning air pollution caused by the combustion of fuel oil with sulfure content, automobile exhausts, radioactive and plastic wastes, and city sewage. Among his solutions for waste disposal is the idea of rocketing radioactive waste to the sun, when modern rocketry becomes sufficiently advanced and the costs economically feasible.

GENERAL

Japan

Article/Source Title: "Chemical Companies Going into Pollution Control Field." CEER: Chemical Economy and Engineering Review

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-221

Date/Place of Publication: May 1972, Tokyo Japan

Pages: 14-15 *Language:* English

Source Repository: LOC

This article points out that Japanese chemical and other types of industries are actively going into the pollution control field, with most of these firms aiming at selling individual equipment for air pollution control or waste water treatment. The author includes a lengthy enumeration of Japanese and foreign companies which are engaged in joint ventures in this field. As yet, no company specializing in overall pollution control systems has been established.

Japan

See AIR (Japan) -- Control No. SO-199

*Code*_____

Peoples Republic of China

Article/Source Title: "China: Ecology and Economy: Two Reasons for Making Use of Industrial Waste." Far East Trade and Development

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-222

Date/Place of Publication: July 1972, London, England

Pages: 260-261 *Language:* English

Source Repository: LOC

China is endeavoring to cope with pollution problems while, at the same time, making the recovery of various substances for subsequent use economically feasible. Mention is made of the treatment of water discarded by the Peking General Petrochemical Works, rich in ammonia and nitrogen, and now being used for irrigating nearby farms. In Shanghai, employees of the Liaoyuan Chemical Plant came up with more than 40 measures to help solve the problem being caused by the discharge of 10,000 tons of polluted water daily. In reducing air pollution, means were found to recover 250 tons of polyvinl chloride resin annually. Water containing iron dischloride is now saved and re-used as an agent for absorbing chlorine -- ultimately resulting in the by-product iron trichloride solution. Also, the chemical plant, by reforming its technological processes, now recovers 800 tons of hydrochloric acid each year.

The Tsitsi Sugar Refinery now produces cement from lime residue, bricks from cinders, alcoholic spirits from sugar beet tailroots, and distills alcohol from waste honey. The Pangpu Municipality has earned 15 m yuan from the sale of new products derived from waste liquid, gas, and slag. Rural and urban areas of China are engaged in a mass movement to recover scrap iron and steel.

Poland *See GENERAL (Bulgaria)* -- Control No. SO-216 *Code*_____

Romania *See GENERAL (Bulgaria)* -- Control No. SO-216 *Code*_____

GENERAL

USSR

Article/Source Title: Vrednyye veshchestva v promyshlennosti (Harmful Substances in Industry). Collective authorship

*Code*_____

Control No. SO-223

Date/Place of Publication: 1971, Leningrad
Pages: Vol. I: 823 pp; Vol. II: 607 pp
Language: Russian *Source Repository:* EPA

Volume I is devoted to descriptions of physical, chemical, and toxic characteristics of organic compounds and methods of safeguarding people working with them. The discussions include: hydrocarbons, alcohols and phenols, esters, organic oxides and peroxides, thiocompounds, aldehydes and ketones, organic acids, esters and amides of phosphoric acid, nitro- and amino-compounds in particular.

Volume II is devoted to inorganic and element-organic compounds. Special sections discuss inert gases, oxygen compounds, halogens, sulphur, selenium, tellurium, nitrogen, phosphorus, arsenic, antimony, carbon, cyanides, chromium, boron, magnesium, zinc, cadmium, mercury, beryllium, aluminum, and virtually every other element with its compounds.

USSR

See GENERAL (Bulgaria) -- Control No. SO-216

*Code*_____

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